

FIRST LEAD EXPULSION (A93)

BY JOHN WEYLAND

MOSCOW, SEPT. 30 (AP)—A 26-YEAR-OLD AMERICAN COLLEGE GRADUATE HAS BEEN EXPELLED FROM RUSSIA ON CHARGES OF WORKING FOR THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND ENGAGING IN "HOSTILE ACTIVITIES," RUSSIAN AUTHORITIES DISCLOSED TODAY.

SIMILAR CHARGES ALSO WERE MADE AGAINST AN AMERICAN DIPLOMAT WHO WAS EXPELLED TWO WEEKS AGO. THE U.S. EMBASSY IN MOSCOW DENIED THE CHARGES.

THE SOVIET LABOR NEWSPAPER TRUD SAID NICHOLAS H. RIEGG, OF (37 DRAWMONT COURT) CONCORD, CALIF., WHO WAS GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES IN 1963, WAS EJECTED THIS MONTH.

TRUD SAID THAT DONALD R. LESH, A U.S. EMBASSY SECRETARY WHO WAS EXPELLED SEPT. 14, HAD SERVED AS CONTACT MAN FOR RIEGG. IT CHARGED THAT LESH ALSO WORKED FOR THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND SUBVERTED AFRICAN STUDENTS IN MOSCOW.

THE U.S. EMBASSY CALLED THE CHARGES AGAINST LESH "COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED." NO SPECIFIC CHARGES HAD BEEN MADE AGAINST HIM UNTIL TODAY.

RIEGG REGISTERED AT THE EMBASSY HERE AS A TOURIST ON SEPT. 1. A SPOKESMAN SAID RIEGG MAY HAVE SPOKEN WITH LESH, BUT CALLED THIS DOUBTFUL.

THE EMBASSY SAID RIEGG HAD NEXT TURNED UP AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, ON SEPT. 12 AND DESCRIBED WHAT HAPPENED.

RIEGG TOLD THE EMBASSY THERE THAT FOUR DAYS BEFORE THAT HE WAS "ENTRAPPED" BY PLAINCLOTHESMEN AT KHARKOV, IN THE UKRAINE, AND ACCUSED OF THE ECONOMIC CRIME OF TRYING TO SELL SOME OF HIS CLOTHES. FOREIGN TOURISTS OFTEN ARE ACCOSTED BY RUSSIANS WHO ASK TO BUY CLOTHES AND OTHER PERSONAL POSSESSIONS SUCH AS WATCHES AND PENS.

RIEGG SAID HE WAS DETAINED OVERNIGHT, REFUSED PERMISSION TO GET IN TOUCH WITH HIS EMBASSY AND THREATENED WITH PRISON, THEN TAKEN BEFORE A JUDGE AND ORDERED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

THE EMBASSY HERE SAID IT HAD NO FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT RIEGG, EXCEPT THAT HE HAD GOTTEN OUT OF EASTERN EUROPE.

TRUD SAID RIEGG HAD SIGNED A STATEMENT ADMITTING THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM.

"WE SHOULD LIKE, ETC., 5TH GRAF PREVIOUS, DELETING NINTH GRAF "THE U.S. EMBASSY X X X AND RIEGG CASES."

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